

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ETHYLENE-VINYL ALCOHOL COPOLYMER RESIN, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING PELLETS AND RESIN PELLETS

The specification of which

a. ☐ is attached hereto

b. ☒ was filed on July 20, 2000 as application serial no. 09/621,271 and was amended on (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. filed and as amended on (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. ☐ no such applications have been filed.

b. ☒ such applications have been filed as follows:

| FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) | DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year) |
| Japan | 11-240274 ✓ | 23 July 1999 | |
| Japan | 11-355947 ✓ | 15 December 1999 | |
| Japan | 11-355948 ✓ | 15 December 1999 | |
| Japan | 11-355949 ✓ | 15 December 1999 | |
| Japan | 11-355950 ✓ | 15 December 1999 | |
| Japan | 11-355951 ✓ | 15 December 1999 | |
| ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S) | | | |
| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) | DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year) |
| | | | |

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) | STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | |

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

| U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | |

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Albrecht, John W. | Reg. No. 40,481 | Kowalchyk, Katherine M. | Reg. No. 36,848 |
| Ali, M. Jeffer | Reg. No. 46,359 | Lacy, Paul E. | Reg. No. 38,946 |
| Anderson, Gregg I. | Reg. No. 28,828 | Larson, James A. | Reg. No. 40,443 |
| Batzli, Brian H. | Reg. No. 32,960 | Leon, Andrew J. | Reg. No. P-46,869 |
| Beard, John L. | Reg. No. 27,612 | Liepa, Mara E. | Reg. No. 40,066 |
| Berns, John M. | Reg. No. 43,496 | Lindquist, Timothy A. | Reg. No. 40,701 |
| Black, Bruce E. | Reg. No. 41,622 | Lycke, Lawrence E. | Reg. No. 38,540 |
| Branch, John W. | Reg. No. 41,633 | McAuley, Steven A. | Reg. No. 46,084 |
| Bremer, Dennis C. | Reg. No. 40,528 | McDonald, Daniel W. | Reg. No. 32,044 |
| Bruess, Steven C. | Reg. No. 34,130 | McIntyre, Jr., William F. | Reg. No. 44,921 |
| Byrne, Linda M. | Reg. No. 32,404 | Mueller, Douglas P. | Reg. No. 30,300 |
| Campbell, Keith | Reg. No. P-46,597 | Pauly, Daniel M. | Reg. No. 40,123 |
| Carlson, Alan G. | Reg. No. 25,959 | Phillips, Bryan K. | Reg. No. P-46,990 |
| Caspers, Philip P. | Reg. No. 33,227 | Phillips, John B. | Reg. No. 37,206 |
| Chiapetta, James R. | Reg. No. 39,634 | Plunkett, Theodore | Reg. No. 37,209 |
| Clifford, John A. | Reg. No. 30,247 | Prendergast, Paul | Reg. No. 46,068 |
| Daignault, Ronald A. | Reg. No. 25,968 | Pytel, Melissa J. | Reg. No. 41,512 |
| Daley, Dennis R. | Reg. No. 34,994 | Qualey, Terry | Reg. No. 25,148 |
| Dalglish, Leslie E. | Reg. No. 40,579 | Reich, John C. | Reg. No. 37,703 |
| Daulton, Julie R. | Reg. No. 36,414 | Reiland, Earl D. | Reg. No. 25,767 |
| DeVries Smith, Katherine M. | Reg. No. 42,157 | Schmaltz, David G. | Reg. No. 39,828 |
| DiPietro, Mark J. | Reg. No. 28,707 | Schuman, Mark D. | Reg. No. 31,197 |
| Edell, Robert T. | Reg. No. 20,187 | Schumann, Michael D. | Reg. No. 30,422 |
| Epp Ryan, Sandra | Reg. No. 39,667 | Scull, Timothy B. | Reg. No. 42,137 |
| Glance, Robert J. | Reg. No. 40,620 | Sebald, Gregory A. | Reg. No. 33,280 |
| Goggin, Matthew J. | Reg. No. 44,125 | Skoog, Mark T. | Reg. No. 40,178 |
| Golla, Charles E. | Reg. No. 26,896 | Spellman, Steven J. | Reg. No. 45,124 |
| Gorman, Alan G. | Reg. No. 38,472 | Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L. | Reg. No. 43,164 |
| Gould, John D. | Reg. No. 18,223 | Sumner, John P. | Reg. No. 29,114 |
| Gregson, Richard | Reg. No. 41,804 | Swenson, Erik G. | Reg. No. 45,147 |
| Gresens, John J. | Reg. No. 33,112 | Tellekson, David K. | Reg. No. 32,314 |
| Hamer, Samuel A. | Reg. No. P-46,754 | Trembath, Jon R. | Reg. No. 38,344 |
| Hamre, Curtis B. | Reg. No. 29,165 | Tuchman, Ido | Reg. No. 45,924 |
| Harrison, Kevin C. | Reg. No. P-46,759 | Underhill, Albert L. | Reg. No. 27,403 |
| Hertzberg, Brett A. | Reg. No. 42,660 | Vandenburgh, J. Derek | Reg. No. 32,179 |
| Hillson, Randall A. | Reg. No. 31,838 | Wahl, John R. | Reg. No. 33,044 |
| Holzer, Jr., Richard J. | Reg. No. 42,668 | Weaver, Karrie G. | Reg. No. 43,245 |
| Johnston, Scott W. | Reg. No. 39,721 | Welter, Paul A. | Reg. No. 20,890 |
| Kadievitch, Natalie D. | Reg. No. 34,196 | Whipps, Brian | Reg. No. 43,261 |
| Karjeker, Shaukat | Reg. No. 34,049 | Wickhem, J. Scot | Reg. No. 41,376 |
| Kastelic, Joseph M. | Reg. No. 37,160 | Williams, Douglas J. | Reg. No. 27,054 |
| Kettelberger, Denise | Reg. No. 33,924 | Witt, Jonelle | Reg. No. 41,980 |
| Keys, Jeramie J. | Reg. No. 42,724 | Wu, Tong | Reg. No. 43,361 |
| Knearl, Homer L. | Reg. No. 21,197 | Xu, Min S. | Reg. No. 39,536 |
| Kowalchyk, Alan W. | Reg. No. 31,535 | Zeuli, Anthony R. | Reg. No. 45,255 |

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903



I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 2 | Full Name Of Inventor | Family Name KAWAHARA | First Given Name Takaharu | Second Given Name |
| 0 | Residence & Citizenship | City Okayama | State or Foreign Country Japan | Country of Citizenship Japan |
| 1 | Post Office Address | Post Office Address c/o Kuraray Co., Ltd., 1-2-1, Kaigandori, Okayama-shi | City Okayama | State & Zip Code/Country 702-8601/Japan |
| Signature of Inventor 201: | | | Date: September 8, 2000 | |
| 2 | Full Name Of Inventor | Family Name KAWAI | First Given Name Hiroshi | Second Given Name |
| 0 | Residence & Citizenship | City Okayama | State or Foreign Country Japan | Country of Citizenship Japan |
| 2 | Post Office Address | Post Office Address c/o Kuraray Co., Ltd., 1621, Sakazu, Kurashiki-shi | City Okayama | State & Zip Code/Country 710-8622/Japan |
| Signature of Inventor 202: | | | Date: September 14, 2000 | |
| 2 | Full Name Of Inventor | Family Name TUBOI | First Given Name Toshio | Second Given Name |
| 0 | Residence & Citizenship | City Okayama | State or Foreign Country Japan | Country of Citizenship Japan |
| 3 | Post Office Address | Post Office Address c/o Kuraray Co., Ltd., 1-2-1, Kaigandori, Okayama-shi | City Okayama | State & Zip Code/Country 702-8601/Japan |
| Signature of Inventor 203: | | | Date: September 8, 2000 | |
| 2 | Full Name Of Inventor | Family Name OHARA | First Given Name Yukihiro | Second Given Name |
| 0 | Residence & Citizenship | City Okayama | State or Foreign Country Japan | Country of Citizenship Japan |
| 4 | Post Office Address | Post Office Address c/o Kuraray Co., Ltd., 1-2-1, Kaigandori, Okayama-shi | City Okayama | State & Zip Code/Country 702-8601/Japan |
| Signature of Inventor 204: | | | Date: September 8, 2000 | |
| 2 | Full Name Of Inventor | Family Name HIKASA | First Given Name Masao | Second Given Name |
| 0 | Residence & Citizenship | City Okayama | State or Foreign Country Japan | Country of Citizenship Japan |
| 5 | Post Office Address | Post Office Address c/o Kuraray Co., Ltd., 1621, Sakazu, Kurashiki-shi | City Okayama | State & Zip Code/Country 710-8622/Japan |
| Signature of Inventor 205: | | | Date: September 8, 2000 | |

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
 - (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;
or
 - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

DOCKET NO.: 204133US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Takaharu KAWAHARA et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/621,271

FILED: July 20, 2000

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: GROUP ART UNIT: 1713

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FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ETHYLENE-VYNL ALCOHOL
COPOLYMER RESIN, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING PELLETS
AND RESIN PELLETS

REVOCATION AND NEW APPOINTMENT OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned representative of Kuraray Co., Ltd., owner by virtue of assignment of the above-identified application, hereby revokes any and all previous Powers of Attorney and appoints Norman F. Oblon, Reg. No. 24,618; Marvin J. Spivak, Reg. No. 24,913; C. Irvin McClelland, Reg. No. 21,124; Gregory J. Maier, Reg. No. 25,599; Arthur I. Neustadt, Reg. No. 24,854; Richard D. Kelly, Reg. No. 27,757; James D. Hamilton, Reg. No. 28,421; Eckhard H. Kuesters, Reg. No. 28,870; Robert T. Pous, Reg. No. 29,099; Charles L. Gholz, Reg. No. 26,395; William E. Beaumont, Reg. No. 30,996; Jean-Paul Lavalleye, Reg. No. 31,451; Stephen G. Baxter, Reg. No. 32,884; Robert W. Hahl, Reg. No. 33,893; Richard L. Treanor, Reg. No. 36,379; Steven P. Weihrouch, Reg. No. 32,829; John T. Goolkasian, Reg. No. 26,142; Richard L. Chinn, Reg. No. 34,305; Steven E. Lipman, Reg. No. 30,011; Carl E. Schlier, Reg. No. 34,426; James J. Kulbaski, Reg. No. 34,648; Richard A. Neifeld, Reg. No. 35,299; J. Derek Mason, Reg. No. 35,270; Surinder Sachar, Reg. No. 34,423; Jeffrey B.

McIntyre, Reg. No. 36,867; William T. Enos, Reg. No. 33,128; Michael E. McCabe, Jr., Reg. No. 37,182; Bradley D. Lytle, Reg. No. 40,073 and Michael R. Casey, Reg. No. 40,294, as Assignee's attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute said patent application, receive any Letters Patent and to take any and all other actions with regard to this patent application and any Letters Patent issuing thereon, and request that all correspondence be sent to the firm of OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. whose Post Office Address is: Fourth Floor, 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b)

I, the undersigned, certify that I am an individual empowered to act on behalf of Kuraray Co., Ltd., the assignee of the entire right, title and interest of the above-identified application by virtue of an assignment from the inventor(s). A copy of the Assignment is attached hereto, and said copy is a true and accurate copy of the Assignment as filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Kuraray Co., Ltd.

Date: May 25, 2001

By: Masanori Izumi

Name: Masanori IZUMI

Title: General Manager of Intellectual
Property Department

(OSMMN 2000)